

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 8-21 are added herewith. New claims 8-14 recite all the limitations of original claims 1-7. Independent claim 8, an analogue of original claim 1, features the transitional language "consisting essentially of." New claims 15-21 also recite all the limitations of originally filed claims 1-7. New independent claim 15, an analogue of original claim 1, additionally recites an inorganic filler that is an animal protein. Support for this additional limitation can be found on page 8 of Applicant's specification in the last line of that page. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under § 102(b) as anticipated by Suzuki et al. Applicant respectfully traverse this rejection as it might be applied to new claims 8-21.

Suzuki discloses both organic and inorganic fillers. However, Suzuki fails to teach an organic filler that is an animal protein. Additionally, Suzuki teaches a resin including both hydrophilic polymers and monomers. Suzuki provides no teaching concerning mixtures of monomers or particular ranges for concentrations of such monomers. Furthermore, Suzuki fails to provide examples of, or teach resins exclusively containing hydrophilic monomers.

One aspect of the presently claimed invention is an organic filler that is an animal protein. Please see the discussion of new claims 15-21, above. Yet, another aspect of the presently claimed invention is the presence of monofunctional and multifunctional

acrylic monomers. Polymers are expressly excluded. Please see the discussion of new claims 16-21, above.

Since Suzuki fails to teach all the elements of the presently claimed invention, it is an improper basis for rejection under § 102. Therefore, Applicants respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn and claims 8-21 allowed.

Applicant respectfully submit that in view of the above amendments and discussion, that the claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any suggestions for placing this application in even better condition for allowance, it is requested that Applicant's undersigned representative be contacted at the telephone number below.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, along with any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,



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